

THE STARS THIS MONTH.

What You'll See in the Heavens if You Know When to Look.

On New Year's day the sun rose about 7:15 and set about 4:30 o'clock, making the length of the day a little more than nine hours, says the New York Times. The days are now adding to their length some four or five minutes, which will be increased some fifty minutes before the month closes. The sun's declination is still far down in the southern section of the heavens, but his speed is an accelerated one, being more than three times as rapid when February opens as it now is.

The first phase of the moon for the new year is that of the full, which occurs on the 4th. The last quartering comes on the 12th, and the first new moon for the year we shall find on the 20th. On the 27th we shall find the moon at its first quartering. From this we can tell that last year's moon has to do as until the month is well along on its second half.

The phenomena in which the moon and planets play a part begin on the 3rd with a meeting between Mercury and Venus, and close on the 29th with the meeting of the two heavenly bodies being almost as near one another on the second occasion as they are at their closest for the month on the 9th, the meeting being a very distant one. On the 17th Uranus is in conjunction with our satellite, followed the succeeding day by Jupiter and a few hours later by Venus. Saturn's opportunity for meeting the moon comes quite late on the 18th, while Mercury has a somewhat distant interview on the 29th.

No celestial picture is so contained in the curious constellation of Orion could be lacking in beauty, and from twilight until dawn we can watch him sweeping majestically across the heavenly vault in pursuit of the Bull, to which he is destined never to get nearer. His belt, twinkling most brilliantly, his sword is fairly studded with diamonds, while the brilliant stars that mark the dimensions of his body are in themselves quite worthy of attention.

Beyond Orion is the Charliote and the starry Gemini; a line from the North Star between the latter finds Procyon, while further south shines Sirius, the gem of all the stars, and the glorious twinkler of the heavens. Looking south we find the mighty river Eridanus occupying nearly the whole space between the equator and the southern horizon. This constellation is one of the most ancient of the star groups, while the Pleiades that is on the opposite side of the heavens is about the most interesting. The bright and ruddy star Aldebaran is in the eye of Taurus the Bull. This group is also prominent in the grades, from a Greek word signifying rain, the influence of these stars being considered showery. Besides the Gemini in the East, we have the Crab and the Lion. The Dipper is also prominent with the end star in the handle so close to the horizon that it is difficult to find it. In the West we find the inconspicuous zodiacal constellation of the Pisces, below which is visible a part of Aquarius, and next to it the Ram. Andromeda and Pegasus are, however, the leading constellations in the West, while more to the northward is Cassiopeia, in which, with the aid of a telescope, hundreds and thousands of stars can be seen.

Neptune begins the planetary conjunctions, in which the moon also figures, by being quite close to the latter on the 3rd. On the 30th there is a very similar meeting between these two heavenly bodies. Neptune is at present to be found in the constellation of the Twins. Just now the planet comes to our meridian shortly after 11 o'clock.

Mars and our satellite are in conjunction on the 9th, but the distance be-

tween the two is far too great for proper scenic effect. About 9 o'clock in the evening the planet Mars, when we shall find him in the constellation of the Lion. Mars will rank among the morning stars until Washington's birthday, when he will be in opposition with the sun, rising about the latter part of the year be classed among the evening stars. Just at present all four of the principal planets—Venus, Jupiter, Mars and Saturn—are morning stars.

Uranus, on the 17th, is in quite close proximity with the moon's fading crescent, and is numbered among the morning stars. On the 3rd there will be a fairly close meeting between Venus and Uranus, which astronomical bodies are determined to vision may be able to take interest in. This planet is moving slowly along to the point of quadrature with the sun, where it will arrive early in March, on its way toward opposition. To the north of Mercury, Uranus does not present any very remarkable appearance and would be passed over merely as a small star, notwithstanding the fact of its being a deal larger than mother earth. It required in Herschel's manner, to grasp the discovery that what everybody took to be a star was really a planet.

Mercury, having swung to the far western end of the arc, is now a morning star, moving in toward the sun with which it is in conjunction on the 21st. After this date the planet will become an evening star, in which galaxy it will continue to be classed until early in March. Mercury is frequently called the elusive planet.

Saturn is a morning star until July 5, when he becomes an evening star for the remaining months of the year. On the 7th he and Mercury are in close relationship, being less than two degrees apart. On the 18th there is conjunction between the planet and the moon. On the 24th Saturn is almost blanketed by Venus, there being merely a thin line separating the two. Early risers who take an interest in the astronomical phenomena will find some two hours or less before dawn a very pretty picture in the eastern sky. The two planets will approach and seemingly touch one another, and then they will separate as Venus draws in toward the sun and Saturn proceeds on his way in the opposite direction.

Jupiter rises somewhere about 5 o'clock in the morning, peeping above the eastern rim of the horizon on the 13th at 5:15 a. m. On the 15th an extremely interesting interview is held between the planet and Venus, which we should not fail to see, but which unfortunately takes place when we are supposed to be sleeping soundly. On the 18th Jupiter is in conjunction with the fading moon, that only at that time has four days to pass after being being Jupiter is slowly increasing in size, and will continue so to do until the latter part of June finds him half as large again as he is at present.

Venus opens the year by rising early and maintaining her supremacy as queen of the twinklers. Her rival, Jupiter, is a very good second, and will continue to improve, whereas Venus is growing gradually smaller and less beautiful, which deterioration will continue until early in May, from which time she will increase in dimension and luster. The fair Venus plays quite an important role this month, as she is in conjunction with the planet Jupiter, the moon and Saturn. She passes the planets as they move out from the sun, her movements being in toward that body. The moon, however, overtakes her on the 18th, but passes at rather too great a distance to cause much of a sensation. At the end of April Venus is in conjunction with the sun, and so we shall see but little of her from early April to late in May.

THE FUTURE OF MEXICO.

The annual report of the Mexican minister of finance, Señor Limonte, calls attention to the remarkable service performed for his country by this most interesting man. He is the leading exponent in the Mexican cabinet of what is known as the Diaz policy—one which has encouraged foreign investment and protected home industry. Should President Diaz die unexpectedly, Mariscal, the present minister of foreign affairs, would succeed him under the provisions of the Mexican constitution. Mariscal was at one time minister to the United States, speaks English fluently, and has an American wife. These things, taken with his own agreeable personality, have made him the best known and the most popular Mexican in the United States. He has not, however, a great following in Mexico, and is not looked upon as a strong politician or leader. Limonte, on the contrary, while not very well known in the United States, has the entire confidence of the foreign capitalists and property owners of the Mexican republic.

Minister Limonte's report also calls attention to a condition which is the result of a prohibitive protective policy. During the past few years Mexico has been wonderfully prosperous, and her development along commercial lines has been extremely rapid. Hitherto her exports have been entirely of raw material, and her people have imported nearly everything consumed at home. To stimulate home manufacturing Mexico has freely granted concessions to capital, which carried with them a prohibitive tariff on articles manufactured in this or any other country. This is notably the case in the clothing goods, the staple article of consumption in the clothing line. The result has been a tremendous rush into the cotton industry in the past that Mexico's policy was beneficial so long as the production did not exceed the consumption, but that as soon as it did disaster would follow.

This point, however, apparently been reached in certain lines of business, for the minister of finance in his report refers to what he calls a "natural reaction," resulting from overproduction in manufacturing. Mexico is the most extreme example of a paternalistic government in matters of encouraging home industry. There is no question that this paternalism was wise in the earlier stages of commercial development, but present conditions indicate that Mexico will soon be compelled to readjust her economic policies to meet successfully the same influences which prevail elsewhere throughout the civilized world and which are now affecting Mexican enterprises. The republic is now reaching a point where there must be some deviation from the policies of the past twenty-five years. President Diaz is not too old and too thoroughly imbued with his methods of the past to make any decided changes is a question of considerable importance. Cecil Rhodes once made a report upon the advisability of very large investments by the Rhodes syndicate

the report was unfavorable. The idea came to Rhodes of a remarkable opportunity. That shrewd African capitalist quickly grasped the inevitable outcome already at hand, as shown by Señor Limonte's report, and he said to himself: "The future of Mexico? There is no guarantee that upon the death of President Diaz the conditions of Mexico will be any better than those of any other Spanish-American republic."

There is little danger that Mexico would suffer any great relief at this time even if President Diaz should be called away from the head of the government. The property owners and the foreign investors have a strong hand upon the course of events, and any disposition to decrease the value of vested rights would be severely and instantly repressed. It has long been believed in the City of Mexico that should President Diaz die Limonte would succeed him almost immediately, and he is looked upon as the coming leader of this republic, representing, as he does, a younger, more advanced school of thought. There is nothing disparaging to President Diaz in saying this, for the degree of civilization represented in the economic policy of the minister of finance would not have been applicable at all at the time when Diaz was putting forth his strongest effort. His work has made possible what is soon to come, under direction of him who have paid more attention to the economic science than was possible with President Diaz, who has made himself an expert in Spanish-American human nature.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

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KIT CARSON'S SON.

He is Now an Old Man and Lives in California.

Who has not heard of Kit Carson, made famous by tales of the California mining camp of "the winter of '49 and the spring of '50?" writes Grace Tower in Los Angeles Herald:

His was one of the most familiar names connected with the life of the early days, woven as it was so closely into the fabric of adventure which helped to make the history of those bygone times.

For sixteen years he has lived there, and since his wife's death alone. He usually keeps a few bees, and the money received from his honey, added to what he can earn chopping wood, helps to supply his simple needs, though at times he is forced to accept outside assistance.

The day we visited him we found him in bed, where he had lain for six long weary weeks with a broken leg, the result of a vicious kick from a "wicked horse." After the accident he was taken to the cabin of a Mexican woman, who cared for him during his enforced helplessness.

Accompanied by Portuguese Flores, who drove our party over, I entered the small and dirty and the bed clothing looked anything but restful. A couple of chairs, scarred and old, and a small table completed the furnishings of the room. Through an open door one caught a glimpse of a tiny kitchen, where a short, sun-browned Mexican woman hovered about a dilapidated stove, and a little Mexican girl, wide-eyed and silent, peeped at one from behind the shelter of her mother's skirt.

Flores spoke to the invalid in Spanish, and as we approached the bed he sat up and extended his horny hand to me with a cordial smile of welcome as one could wish to receive. "Now, I'm real glad to see you; get right down there, pointing to a rickety, wooden-bottomed chair by the bedside, and make yourself as much at home as you can."

As I did so I thought that after all it is not what one has to give, but the spirit and the way he offers it, which makes the gift worth the having. Divining instinctively, that there was one who might not be averse to a little notoriety, I stated my errand at once, saying I had heard he was a relative of old Kit Carson and I should like to know more about him.

"I am," he said, "the son of Kit Carson, and the keen, piercing blue eyes flashed and he drew himself up a bit straighter as though conscious of an added dignity at being the descendant of so noted a sire.

"How long has he been here? Oh, nigh onto sixteen years, right here, but before that I worked a coal mine near Pasadena. Right across the bluff it was

from that big hotel that burned down—the Raymond. You can see a part of the shaft now, though it's mostly closed up. The coal there was 180 feet underground, but I cleaned out quite a lot.

"Something about my life? Well, I don't know as there's much to tell. I was born in Galveston, Tex., that city that's been under water; but a good part of my life has been spent in these parts. Oh, I lived in Oregon and all through California. I've worked in mines some, and I've taught Spanish and Injun and the English language."

When I question him concerning his relatives he said that he believed his father "had five brothers besides himself, and three sisters."

He "guessed" there was most of "em dead, unless 'twas his uncle, Moses Carson." He himself has one sister living in Mexico. He told me that his father died at Fort Lyon, Colo., in 1868, but that the body had since been removed from its original burial place, where he has "just a few bones."

We are told that Christopher Carson was a small man of compact frame, about five and one-half feet tall, with a large, well developed head, twinkling gray eyes, a retreating nose, and sandy hair combed back from a broad, high forehead. The son, when younger, must in many ways have resembled his father. He is rather small and now quite thin, and a stubby gray beard and whitening hair make him look older than he really is. But the same sharp, steel-blue eyes of the father flash out at one from under the shaggy brows of the son. His capacity for acquiring languages seem also to have been inherited from the old hunter and trapper father, for he also speaks French and Spanish fluently, besides being conversant with several Indian dialects. Carson's father was married when quite young to an Indian girl, who died shortly after the birth of their child. Later he married Senora Josepha Jaramilla, a Spanish woman of great beauty, who was said to be "the best looking woman in the territory."

After she died, leaving three children. Mr. Carson was married a third time and at his death left seven children, but I did not learn to which wife Sam belonged. He said his memory was not so good as it once was, and I found no difficulty in believing him. But he remembers whose name he bears, and that seems sufficient; and what wonder that he should feel pride in a son of whom men could write in words of such unstinted praise.

In a letter from John Charles Fremont, introducing Kit Carson as a bearer of dispatches to the government in 1847, he writes: "With me Carson and Fremont mean the same thing. He is always the same—gallant and disinterested." While H. R. Tilton, assistant surgeon of the United States army at that time, who was with him at his death, writes of him:

"He was one of nature's noblemen—a true man in all that constitutes manhood; pure, honorable, truthful, sincere—of noble impulses; a true knight of the olden time, and without a stain on his armor, never ready to defend the weak against the strong, and without reward other than his own conscience."

Truly, Sam, though old and poor, has a goodly heritage.

CAPTAIN COGHLAN TRIES TO FORGET "HOCH DER KAISER."

It was no song, dot foolish thing. At least, no song dot I could sing. Dot "Hoch der Kaiser," cracious nein! At any rate, no song of mine, Und dot's der drue.

I will not speak der schmaldest vord of "Hoch der Kaiser," nor be heard of it. To mut vun syllable of it— You think I don't know von to kvit? You baed I do!

"Now, just one stipulation, before I say anything—give that 'Hoch der Kaiser' business a much needed rest." Capt. J. B. Coghlan, who fought the good ship Raleigh to the red, smoky, victorious finish of the battle of Manila, looked straight through the spectacles and, though he smiled as he spoke, he evidently meant what he said.

"It is not alone because that confounded bit of doggerel brought me a big bunch of unwelcome notoriety," continued the captain, "but I'm tired of connected with my name as if that were the only means by which I could be identified—and I'm tired of the thing on general principle, and have been trying for months to forget every line of it."

"And have you succeeded?" asked the gentle inquirer, who nestled beside him on a big divan in the lobby of the Metropolitan hotel. "No, I stuck on the third line and I haven't got past it, but I'll forget it or die," said the captain, "and I'll never learn another poem as long as I live, but enough of that. You were going to ask me about—"

"About yourself and your many journeys across and up and down the mighty waters?" "Thunderation!" laughed Captain Coghlan, and then he laughed cheerfully, took off his spectacles and passed his handkerchief across his eyes and brought it downward by way of his agitated Roman nose. "I've been in the navy forty years and I've been in every country of the world—that is, all but one—and I've put in as the principal ports of every country, except one."

"And that one?" "Australia. Somehow it never felt to me to visit that distant shore. Some of our vessels are in one or another of the Australian ports almost all the time, but I was never sent there. But you can't find another spot on the map that I'm not familiar with. That's why I have always been anxious to go to my travels in a month. I've been in the navy forty years and I've been in every country of the world—that is, all but one—and I've put in as the principal ports of every country, except one."

gle Chinese port was open to the ships of other nations, we may note the reason—lack of the commercial spirit in China and the recognition of the value of reciprocity."

Captain Coghlan talked long and admirably of Admiral Dewey and said that with all the plaudits he had received the American people meant the same thing. He is always the same—gallant and disinterested."

"It was the most tremendous responsibility that could be thrust upon a man," said Captain Coghlan, "and I accepted it with a flinch and bore it through to victory."

Captain Coghlan is now 56 years of age, and though he has passed through a period of serious illness, he has regained his habitual ruddiness of complexion and his hearty manner of speech and action.

His sick leave ends today but as his lungs are yet delicate from the effects of the severe attack of pleurisy which so nearly cost him his life, his physicians recommended that he take three months' additional leave. This he has done and his request will undoubtedly be granted, after which Captain Coghlan and Mrs. Coghlan will return to Manitou and the pleasant home which they have occupied since last July.

Captain Coghlan ranks high in the grade of captain and within a year he will become a rear admiral.—Denver Post.

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THIRD WARD BISHOPRIC.

Organized on Friday Evening at a Meeting Held for That Purpose.

The Third ward meeting house held a large and attentive congregation on Friday evening. President Angus M. Cannon was in charge. Elder J. M. Curtis, who has presided since Bishop Browning removed from the ward, was confined to his bed with serious illness.

After singing by the choir and prayer by Elder J. W. McMurrin, Elder C. W. Penrose was called on to address the congregation. He explained that as President Cannon had to leave the city for Logan to attend a meeting of Directors of the Temple and could not be here on Sunday this meeting was called for Friday evening. He then dwelt on the duties of the Bishopric and those of the members, and the reasons why nominations for offices in the Priesthood came from the presiding officers, to be ratified by the body of the people. He was followed by Elder Joseph E. Taylor on the necessity of submission to the mind and will of the Lord, instancing the life of Jesus as illustrating this great principle.

President Angus M. Cannon also made some remarks endorsing what had been said and then named Elder Oliver Hodgson as Bishop of the Third ward. This was sustained by unanimous vote. Elder Hodgson, who was as much surprised as anybody present, expressed his willingness to serve and was advised with as to his choice for counselors. It was decided to call Andrew Smith Jr. as his first counselor, and E. M. Weller Jr. as his second counselor. They were both unanimously sustained.

President Joseph F. Smith and the Stake Presidency attended to the ordination and setting apart of these brethren by the laying on of hands. Oliver Hodgson was ordained a High Priest and Bishop and set apart as Bishop of the Third ward, by President Joseph F. Smith, Andrew Smith was ordained a High Priest and set apart as first counselor to Bishop Hodgson, by Counselor Joseph E. Taylor; and Elijah M. Weller Jr. was set apart as second counselor to Bishop Hodgson, by Counselor Charles W. Penrose.

President Joseph F. Smith then delivered a brief but pointed discourse on the duties of the officers and members of the Church, and bore testimony to the correctness of the teachings of the other speakers.

The benediction was pronounced by Elder John Nicholson.

BISHOPS.

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